# **Virginia Racing Commission**

# **MINUTES**

### **OF THE**

# **COMMISSION MEETING**

**December 16, 2009** 

HORSEMEN'S BUILDING COLONIAL DOWNS 10700 HORSEMEN'S ROAD NEW KENT, VA

In Attendance

Commission Members:

Peter C. Burnett, Chairman Clinton Miller, Vice Chairman Mark Brown David C. Reynolds Stuart Siegel

# **Commission Staff:**

Victor I. Harrison, Executive Secretary
David S. Lermond, Jr., Deputy Executive Secretary
Kimberly M. Carter, Office Administrator
C. Richard Harden, DVM, Commission Veterinarian
Joseph M. Roney, Director of Security & Enforcement
Dennis E. West, Director of Operations

Attorney General's Office:	
Amy K. Dilworth	

At 10:06 a.m., the monthly meeting of the Commission was called to order by Chairman Burnett.

Chairman Burnett informed the Commission that due to the illness of the appellant, the hearing on the matter of Driver Mark Gray will be held in January.

Prior to the regular monthly meeting, presentations were made by representatives of Colonial Downs/The Racing Channel, ODS Technologies, L.P., d/b/a TVG, XpressBet, Inc. and Churchill Downs Technology Initiatives Company, d/b/a TwinSpires, Inc., and YouBet on their applications for the renewal of their advance

deposit account wagering licenses for 2010. Deputy Secretary Lermond stated that he had performed the required reviews of these ADW applicants.

Following the discussion of the request for renewal of ADW applicants, Chairman Burnett made the motion to go into closed session. In accordance with the provisions of Section 2.2-3711 (A) (7), I move the Commission convene a closed meeting for the following purpose: Consultation of legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. In this case any legal advice that we may seek or need with the respect to the granting of ADW licenses or renewals thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Brown. All were in favor by saying aye.

Coming out of closed meeting, in accordance with Section 2.2-3712 that to the best of each members knowledge, one, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter, and two, only such business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting were convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting by the public body.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ferguson and the vote was as follows: Brown, aye; Siegel, aye; Reynolds, aye; Miller, aye; and Chairman Burnett, aye.

Chairman Burnett moved the approval of all five licenses subject to the seven conditions recommended by staff and with the additional condition of the reservation of our right to impose a bond with appropriate notice and opportunity to be heard in the event we find that the so-called Oregon separate account protection of client—account holders funds is insufficient to protect them in Virginia. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion was passed unanimously by the Commissioners.

Following the applications for renewal of Advanced Deposit Account Wagering Licenses for 2010, Chairman Burnett moved to the regular monthly meeting.

The minutes of the November 17, 2009 meeting were approved.

During Commissioners Comments, Chairman Burnett informed the Commission that RCI endorsed, approved, resolved efforts to sponsor legislation to start a National Racing Compact that isn't limited to the licensing. It would have far broader coverage and authority from participating states in terms of the subject area it covers.

The Executive Secretary, Vic Harrison reviewed the final report of the 2009 Standardbred meeting. The report was written and compiled by Jean Chalk, the Senior Commonwealth Judge.

The Equine Medical Director, Dr. Richard Harden reviewed his report of the 2009 Harness Meet. From his perspective, 2008 was one of the best harness meets. 2009 was a great disappointment from his perspective. Ms. Katherine Smith, Vice President of the VHHA stated that, "a lot of the behavior that we saw, the quality of racing that we saw,

and certainly the quality of the driver colony that Mr. Brown has mentioned were more than likely a stout reflection of the purse monies. We are not able to draw some of the larger stables where you can count on a better quality horse, better quality personnel tending the horses, and better support for the racing itself."

The 2010 Standardbred Race Days request was deferred to January 2010.

Chairman Burnett moved to approve the adoption of the final exemption to 10-60-15, fee schedule for permit holders. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. The motion was passed unanimously by the Commissioners.

Chairman Burnett recommended to the Commission that the 2010 Thoroughbred Race Days request be deferred until January 2010.

"There being no further business," Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> was set as the date of the next meeting to be held at the Horsemen's Building, Colonial Downs, 10700 Horsemen's Road, New Kent, VA. It was moved, seconded, and carried to adjourn this December, 2009 monthly meeting of the Commission.